

Office of Attorney General Terry Goddard



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Attorney General's Office and AARP Arizona to Host Sun City Shred-a-Thon

(Phoenix, Ariz. – Jan. 23, 2006) -- Shredding mail is a good way to prevent becoming a victim of identity theft. The Arizona Attorney General's office and AARP Arizona will host a *Protect Yourself Against Identity Theft* "Shred-a-thon" in Sun City on Tuesday, Jan. 24, beginning at 11 a.m. The event will be held at the Olive Branch Senior Center, 10765 W. Peoria Avenue.

"Many people don't realize that bits and pieces of their personal information can be a gold mine to identity thieves," said AARP Arizona State Director David Mitchell. "In fact, a person's name, address and phone number may be all they need to commit fraud and damage a person's good name or credit. Throwing discarded mail into the trash without shredding it first can be an open invitation to having your identity stolen."

Residents are encouraged to bring old tax returns, bills, medical records and other documents to the event for shredding. Iron Mountain Inc. has donated the use of one of its large shredding trucks for the event.

"ID theft is a crime of convenience, and thieves look for the simplest way to lift someone's identity," said Attorney General Terry Goddard. "Mail is one of the easiest ways to steal an identity. Shredding documents is a quick way to protect yourself from becoming a victim."

The Attorney General's Fraud Fighter Van and Community Services staff will be on site with consumer information. The event is free and open to the public.

Event Information:

Event:	<i>Protect Yourself Against Identity Theft</i> Shred-a-thon
When:	Tuesday, Jan. 24, at 11 a.m.
Where:	Olive Branch Senior Center 10765 W. Peoria Avenue Sun City, Arizona

For more information about this event or other consumer information, please call (602) 542-2123.

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